

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

April 14, 2005

TO: Interested Parties -- Commercial Availability Reviews

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Heidi Colby-Oizumi (202-205-3391; heidi.colby@usitc.gov) Program Managers for Commercial Availability Reviews

SUBJECT: Commercial Availability Review on Shirts and Blouses of 2x2 Twill

Cotton Flannel Fabrics (Investigation No. 332-465-006)

The U.S. International Trade Commission has initiated a review to provide advice concerning a petition filed under the "commercial availability" provisions of the United States-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA) on 100-percent cotton, 2 x 2 twill weave, flannel fabric of combed, ring spun, 2-ply yarns. The fabric weighs between 150 and 160 grams per square meter, has a thread count of 92-to-98 threads per square centimeter, are made of yarns of different colors, and are napped on both sides. This fabric is classified in HTS statistical reporting number 5208.43.00.00 and is used in the production of shirts and blouses.

The petition was filed by Oxford Industries, Inc., Atlanta, GA, and received by the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) on April 8, 2005. The petition alleges that the fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner.

The Commission will conduct the review and provide advice under its investigation No. 332-465, Commercial Availability of Apparel Inputs (2005): Effect of Providing Preferential Treatment to Apparel Imported from Sub-Saharan African, Caribbean Basin, and Andean Countries, instituted at the request of the United States Trade Representative (USTR). The advice concerns the probable economic effect on U.S. producers, workers, and consumers of granting duty-free and quota-free treatment to apparel made in eligible countries from the specified fabrics, regardless of the source of the fabrics, should CITA determine that the fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. The Commission will submit its advice to USTR in a classified report by May 20, 2005, and issue a public version of it soon thereafter.

The Commission invites interested parties to submit written statements (original and 3

copies) concerning issues to be addressed by the Commission in this review by May 3, 2005. Information on procedures for submitting written statements to the Commission can be found in its notice of investigation, which was published in the *Federal Register* of January 26, 2005 (70 F.R. 3728) and posted on its website at http://www.usitc.gov/secretary/fed_reg_notices/332/332_465_institution01242005sgl.pdf.

Further information on this review can be obtained from Vincent DeSapio (202-205-3435); vincent.desapio@usitc.gov. Information on the commercial availability investigation of the Commission can be obtained from its Program Managers (see above) and from its website at

http://www.usitc.gov/ind_econ_ana/research_ana/pres_cong/332/short_supply/shortsupintro.htm. Information on commercial availability requests is also available from the U.S. Department of Commerce, which chairs CITA, on the website of its Office of Textiles and Apparel at http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/CA.htm.